

ON-FILE NSC RELEASE
INSTRUCTIONS APPLY

71 NOV 10 PM 9:42

SENT

WHITE HOUSE
SITUATION ROOM

~~TOP SECRET~~ 110119Z NOV 71 SENSITIVE EXCLUSIVELY EYES
ONLY VIA BUNKER CHANNELS
FROM: HENRY A. KISSINGER
TO: AMBASSADOR BUNKER
CORRECTED COPY OF CITE: WHS1133

REFERENCE MY WHS 1132, THE PRESIDENT HAS JUST DECIDED TO ANNOUNCE THE ACTUAL TROOP WITHDRAWAL NUMBERS CONTAINED IN GENERAL ABRAMS CURRENT PROGRAM WHICH EQUALS 45,000 U.S. FORCES TO BE WITHDRAWN BETWEEN DECEMBER 1 AND FEBRUARY 1. IN ADVISING THIEU OF THIS DECISION YOU SHOULD ASSURE HIM THAT THE ANNOUNCED WITHDRAWAL RATE FOR THE MONTHS OF DECEMBER AND JANUARY DOES NOT REPRESENT A DEPARTURE FROM THE OVERALL PROGRAM WHICH HAS BEEN DISCUSSED WITH HIM. UNDER THIS PROGRAM WE WILL REACH THE FORCE LEVEL OF BETWEEN 50,000 TO 60,000 BY JULY 1.

YOU SHOULD ALSO INFORM THIEU THAT THE PRESIDENT HAS DECIDED TO ANNOUNCE GENERAL ABRAMS' ACTUAL WITHDRAWAL FIGURES FOR THIS TWO-MONTH PERIOD TO ASSIST IN TAKING THE HEAT OFF THE FOREIGN AID ISSUE WITHIN THE CONGRESS.
WARM PERSONAL REGARDS.